

SNOWCHECKS MINING WORK

LOSS IN OUTPUT ESTIMATED AT \$2,000,000 IN COLORADO.

Damage in Property by Snow Slides—The Boan in Copper Properties—Rich Deposit of Marble Uncovered in Mexico—Rush to Porcupine Creek District, Alaska.

DEADERICK, Feb. 15.—The unprecedented storms of the past three weeks have greatly reduced the output of the mines in all parts of the State. From every camp come reports of mining operations shut down on account of the deep snows, suspension of transportation facilities and lack of fuel and excessively cold weather. The great Stoltzen property in Silver Lakes basin above Silverton, has suffered considerable damage to buildings and tramways by reason of slides. The Pelican-Dives mines were damaged on Sunday last to the extent of \$50,000 by the avalanche that came down upon Silver Plume, burying a dozen people under the debris and carrying off ore from the dunes. It is estimated that the loss in output from which there can be no recovery amounts to \$2,000,000 in the total output for the present year.

Leadville was the centre of interest during the past fortnight. At one time it was thought that the downtown mines would have to suspend pumping operations, upon the final issue of which so much depends, because the railroads were tied up and the supply of fuel was exhausted. But under the leadership of George Cook a thousand miners shouldered picks and shovels and cleared the railroads of the blocked railroad lines. The coal had to be picked out from between the rails and the great banks leveled aside so as to give the rotary ploughs room to operate in, and thus, by column labor, the roads were opened and coal was rushed in before the last ton had been exhausted. Fully 2,000 men have been temporarily laid off in the Leadville district alone by reason of the severe storms of the month.

A mine about Red Cliff have shut down until the danger from avalanches has passed. In Gunnison county work has ceased. Clear Creek awaits the events of the next few days before daring to do much work. Boulder county has been blocked for two weeks. The southern portion of the State escaped until this week, reporting but little snow all winter. The line from Durango to Silverton has been open all winter. The mines of the San Juan are protected against heavy snows and the principal ones can operate in winter about as well as during the short summers. Cripple Creek is out of the snow belt and has to contend only with disagreeable winds and cold weather.

Interest continues in the operations of the Isabella Company. Stock quotations are on the decline in spite of a recent payment of \$135,000 in dividends and the promise of many more to come.

There has been a rich strike in the Half Moon of the Mattoon Company. Details are suppressed and the information only comes from workers in the mine.

The annual report of the Victor Gold Mining Company has been published. Little of the stock is now held in this State. The revenue of the company for the year was derived from the sale of 32,288 tons of ore to smelters averaging \$80 per ton and from 32,537 tons of mill ore at \$341 per ton. The total receipts after treatment and transportation charges were paid amounted to \$245,984. All expenses amounted to \$245,884. The company paid out in dividends \$135,000, leaving a balance of \$100,000, resulting in a deficit of \$100,000.

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ALASKA.—Seattle, Jan. 14.—The Helen Bay Company this week took up mines in the United States assay office in Seattle, the result of the last run on the average ore of the Helen Bay gold mines.

The Beckler River copper mines, which bear the name of the Beckler River, are now being developed. The copper is being sent to smelters in Canada from Fort Wayne about two weeks ago, and these men have since been of record double the amount paid for the metal.

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be a world-beater. Supplies are freighted in from time to time by wagon, the distance being about fifty miles.

The drift on the 500-foot tunnel of the crowned King mine has been run for about two years, and more through the rich body of ore recently discovered, showing that it is not an ordinary pocket.

Robert Kier has discovered a lead near Devil's Hole, which shows great richness.

A shaft is being sunk on the new find and valuable ore is being taken out. Many good-looking ledges are said to exist in the neighborhood of the new find.

UTAH.

SALT LAKE, Feb. 15.—A great copper property has just been discovered in this State, twenty-five miles southeast of Price, in Emery county. It consists of 100 acres all gold, and the experts estimate the value of the ore to be four veins, one showing very copper while the others are said to assay 50 per cent. This means millions of dollars for the owners, who at present are Mr. W. L. Stein and Thomas M. Almire of Provo.

The Horn River Mining Company, Allan C. Washington, New York, president, has made complete arrangements to buy the property and will pay 25 per cent, copper ore. Fifty tons a week will be shipped.

A shaft has been started on the 1,300-foot level of the Bullion Beck mine at Tintic. The company has declared a dividend of \$10,000.

During the week the Silver King paid a dividend of \$31,250, and the Swanee the sum of \$5,000.

WASHINGTON.

In the sunset group, near Index, on the Great Northern Railway, a strike has been made within the past few days that will affect the entire line of the railroads of the State. The whole face of the main tunnel is now in solid ore fully seven feet wide that gives 35 per cent copper, besides silver and gold. The value of the ore is about \$100 a ton. The brown iron pyrite, in the same veinlet, also has a big sulfureous show. Five veins, also, are being made to install a mile will be shipped.

The Shoshone group of five claims, also, has made a big sulfureous show.

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